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Razzamataz Kids' Shows presented *Circus Incognitus,* featuring Jamie Adkins this past weekend at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion. More photos inside this edition of the *Echo*. /TIM YANO staff photographer

Buy Canadian; how the tariffs hit home

EMILY STONEHOUSE
Editor

It's official. As of March 4, 2025, the looming tariff threats from U.S. President Donald Trump have been put into place.

Following a 30-day reprieve, the blanket tariffs on Canada and Mexico include 25 per cent on all imports, with the exception of 10 per cent on Canadian energy.

The Federal Government responded with 25 per cent tariffs on $30 billion of U.S. goods, with the intention of increasing this number in the not-so-distant future.

But how does an international trade war impact our rural communities in Haliburton County?

According to local businesses, we will be hit in more ways than we know.

"It's going to take a little time to get everything right," said Steve Todd, the owner of Todd's Independent, a franchise of the Loblaws Grocery Store chains. "It's only been a few days, and it's going to be a learning curve for everyone."

When the tariffs became official last week, Todd was given direction to pull all American alcohol from the shelves; mirroring a decision that aligns with the LCBO. While inter-provincial alcohol regulation changes are in the works, many will see barren liquor shelves where American-made products once sat; a bold statement showcasing the lengths these businesses will go to boycott U.S. products.

While alcohol does not run the immediate risk of expiration, Todd noted that there are other goods which may be impacted in his store. While the tariffs were just made official recently, the pending threats of the action forced many to adopt a 'buy Canadian' mindset for at least the past month.

Haliburton County residents may have received a document in their mailboxes recently from Haliburton's Royal LePage real estate firm, with the title of "Grocery Guide". The list includes categories of food, with indications on which U.S. brands to avoid, and which Canadian brands to buy. While the list is not exhaustive, it provides a general outline.

"We actually saw the list on social media and, like everyone else, we are angered by the recent political events and saw this as a great opportunity to somehow contribute towards helping fellow Canadians deal with it," said Nanci Hunter, the office administrator and deal secretary for Royal LePage in Haliburton. "It has been received very well as we have had some phone calls from people thanking us for the guide, as well as stopping in to the office to get a copy."

But solely supporting Canadian-made products perhaps isn't as easy as it sounds. "There's a lot of companies who are American owned, but have Canadian staff, and produce everything here," noted Todd. "It's not as clear cut as some people may think."

"You can 100 per cent take your time, and find things that are from Canada," he went on to say, "but there is a lot that is imported. We can't grow the fruits and vegetables that they grow. And in this economy that we're in, we have to get what's affordable."

Manasvi Thakur, a media contact for

see GROCERY page 2

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Grocery stores look to adapt during changes

from page 1

Sobeys grocery chains, which includes the local Foodlands in Minden and Haliburton, echoed Todd's sentiments. "(We are) focused on protecting our customers to the greatest extent possible as our country responds to this unfortunate action by the United States," he said.

Thakur went on to note that over the past year, approximately 12 per cent of the corporation's sales came from products sourced from the United States, and they have diligently spent the past 30 days seeking alternatives from other countries. "Our sourcing team is working to mitigate the potential impact of tariffs by category and by product for that relatively small portion of sales that are sourced from the U.S.," he said.

Steve Todd believes that buying Canadian is one option when it comes to boycotting American products, but seeking out options from other countries could also work. "I expect that Mexico may suddenly be a big player in the game," he said. "I can see us shifting over to other places. Any other country we can substitute products through, we will do."

While it makes sense that grocery stores offer a variety of products from other countries, some businesses don't need to shift gears all that much. At Riverview Furniture in the heart of Minden, they have always sourced locally. "We do not agree with these tariffs in any way," said Haley Lynch, the manager of the store. "But it's not going to hurt our business, because we have always been made in Canada."

Lynch shared that their store has recently seen an increase in business, with shoppers actively looking to source Canadian-made products. Riverview works with a woodshop based out of the Toronto area, and much of their furniture is produced locally. Whatever is not made in Canada, Lynch noted that they work with suppliers from Europe. "We never really carried any products from the U.S." she said, noting that any small products they did carry were easy to part with. "Who would have ever thought we'd be at odds with the States in our lifetime," she mused.

Steve Todd shared that the shifts and uncertainty with the ever-changing tariff regulations are reminiscent of the COVID-19 pandemic, which put the world into a tailspin in early 2020. "It's going to get easier," he said. "But the way we have to react and change all the time reminds me a little of the pandemic. We've got a good start though, and we will get it right. It's just going to take some time."

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There are some discrepancies in the grocery world between items made in Canada, prepared in Canada, or using Canadian staff. Steve Todd of Haliburton's Independent noted that there will be a "learning curve" when it comes to getting it right. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

Maple season back to normal, say local producers

THOMAS SMITH
Staff Reporter

Last year, around the middle of February, there was no snow in the bush in Haliburton County. With the unusually warm weather, syrup producers had to jump at the opportunity to produce syrup early. Without any snow, they had little to no difficulty maneuvering through their forests to tap their trees for their sweet nectar, maple sap.

This year, with snow up to your waist in the bush, local syrup producers are saying that the weather has returned to what is typically expected in the county this time of year.

Esson Creek Maple says that they tapped their trees in late January and early February due to the warm winter season, one of the earliest seasons they have had. The season started early and finished early, with sap flowing for around seven weeks.

"The deep snow this year has resulted in making the process of tapping the trees especially challenging," said Heather Bramham, co-owner of Esson Creek Maple and Green Mantle Mineral Tours. Even with snowshoes and experience."

Bramham and her husband Josh, as well as her in-laws Mark and Sandra Bramham have been running Esson Creek Maple since 2016.

Mark Bramham says that tapping the trees took nine more hours this season than last year. In 2024 it took 43 hours to install 2,200 taps.

After retiring fromteaching in Sault Ste. Marie, Mark and Sandra purchased 300 acres in Wilberforce. While camping and using the land for recreation, Sandra's mother, May, noticed an outcropping of a mineral formation on the property. It turned out that their property had rare calcite deposits, with crystal growth scattered throughout. After years of trying to secure the rights and paying for assessments by the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forests, Mark and Sandra were able to obtain the mineral rights to the adjacent Crown land to protect the unique mineral deposits for future generations.

Throughout the summer and fall, the Bramhams offer tours through Greenmantle Mineral Tours, their sister business to Esson Creek Maple. The Bramhams take extreme care when creating their trails throughout their property, ensuring not to disturb the land and showcase the untouched ruggedness of the Haliburton Highlands.

"We own this property," said Sandra Bramham on CBC's *Still Standing* television show. "But we've always said, we're just the caretakers."

Greenmantle's tours take around four hours, with visitors being given a geological review, a walk through the forest, mineral viewing, and a tasting of their maple syrup. More often than not, Mark is the one that conducts the tours.

"Whether it's processing timber, bottling syrup, providing tours, maintaining trails, ordering supplies or meeting folks who stop by the Sugarhouse to buy syrup or see minerals," said Heather Bramham. "Mark is a hardworking and dedicated individual. He is the backbone of our businesses."

Esson Creek Maple uses 60 acres of their bush to harvest the maple sap, says Bramham. Around 2,200 trees are tapped, with some even having more than one tap.

"They are complimentary, yet different businesses under one umbrella," said Bramham.

With their property including part of a calcite dome and rare mineral specimens like fluororichterite, Bramham says that the richness of minerals and undisturbed forest enhances the syrup's taste.

"When you try the syrup at the sugar house, you get the sweetness right off the bat, but then you can feel the minerals," said Bramham.

Using a vacuum system, sap from the 2,200 trees is sucked into a storage tank. The sap is then put through their reverse osmosis machine two or three times, increasing the sugar content of the sap to around 16 to 17 degrees brix (sugar content). Afterwards, the sap is brought into the evaporator where it is boiled to reach 66 to 68 brix. Any less and the sap will be considered sweet sap and any more, the maple syrup will be considered candy and likely have sugar crystals form.

Esson Creek Maple's maple syrup can be purchased online, with bookings for mineral tours available through the same URL at essoncreekmaple.ca.

Other syrup providers in the area echoed the Bramham's experiences. "Last year was very strange," said Rick Wood, co-owner of The Colour of Wood. "This is more of a normal season."

Last year, March 3 marked the Wood's earliest boiling date, ever.

The Colour of Wood is located at 1255 Peterson Road, near Carnarvon, where they offer maple syrup for sale, in addition to Wendy Wood's artwork.

So far, the Woods have had two boils this season. With the deep snow, Wood says that it was a lot more difficult getting things set up and ready, compared to last year. They are unsure as to how this season will fare with volume.

"Right now, we are just waiting on Mother Nature," said Wood.

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Haliburton history fades with Wigamog Inn

JAMES MATTHEWS
Staff Reporter

The former Wigamog Inn on Kashagawigamog Lake has faced vandalism on multiple occasions leading to a property standards order issued by Dysart by-law officers for owners to board all openings for safety reasons. The building still stands today, with it's future largely unknown. /FILE

The name Kashagawigamog is an Anishinaabeg word that means lake of long and winding waters.

For many people, Wigamog is a word that conjures memories of long and winding childhood summers on Kashagawigamog Lake in Haliburton.

The Wigamog Resort sits on about 43 acres of prime lakefront property, real estate pegged as recently as 2022 as possibly being worth as much as $5 million.

That's a small sum compared to the feelings stoked in people who can look back on easy summers at the place.

For many people with childhood memories or later summer romances, recollections of boreal sojourns for other reasons, the Haliburton refuge means more than dollars.

The Kashagawigamog Lake inn's doors opened in 1903 as a boarding house. Owners Robert and Anne Gould provided lodgings for boarders for $3 a week.

The property was sold in 1917 and work began to convert it into an inn that opened in 1922.

It was expanded again near the end of the 1960s before it was sold in 1993.

It was shut down in 2011.

Five years passed before it was bought by the current owners, the Aurora Group.

Little has been done at the property in the years since, except for some windows having been boarded up and entranced chained closed. There were reports of a possible residential development at the site.

It's main building, conference building, and outer cabins have since become shells.

It was previously reported that the Aurora Group had until July 2022 to board all windows and entrances as a measure to prevent trespassers and vandals. That was the municipality's response to safety concerns about the property.

Provincial and Dysart officials were concerned about a possible environmental contaminants at the property. That concern was raised as a result of a site environmental inspection by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks.

Attention has been paid to the safe containment and removal of asbestos, black mold, and any number of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)--those other persistent reminders of years gone by that are difficult to destroy and won't easily break down on their own.

Brows were also creased in worry for the present endangered species of birds, bats and turtles and snakes.

The stately main building is an island within vegetation; it's former pool reduced a yawning maw.

Many photos exist of the resort in picture albums and newspaper clippings held onto by the hundreds of regular and occasional seasonal visitors to the property. Other curious images of the Wigamog Inn can be found online as if digital jetsam washed onto the Kashagawigamog's shore.

Pictured inside during a four-year-old YouTube video, art still hangs on the walls. Furniture remains arranged in some rooms. Some of the walls are like a sprawling Rorschach test in the designs made while peeling white paint and the colours beneath contrast on some walls and ceilings.

Broken glass piled with books, board games.

Indeed, the lonely main lodge has lured a number of photographers and videographers who pique online traffic by exploring abandoned properties throughout North America. One such video from 2018 can be found on YouTube on the Freaktography channel.

Another such urban explorer is Riddim Ryder who posted video in 2020.

The 27-minute tour of the abandoned facility has brought down avenues of memory viewers who can see the resort through the black mold, the dust, and the detritus of neglect.

As an update, another urban explorer said that as of 2023, the ceilings in some rooms have collapsed onto floors. Recreational items and some furniture have been removed. Stairs to a lower-level indoor swimming pool were decrepit and too dangerous to venture down.

One viewer, identified as *SandraLily2*, is saddened by the state of the inn as shown in the video.

"I spent a wonderful week here with my family back in the '70s," the user wrote. "It was such fun! They had activities all day long for the kids so the grown-ups could enjoy themselves without feeling guilty.

"We stayed in one of the cabins towards the end in the back. Thanks so much for posting. I shed a tear for days gone by and beautiful memories."

At least one former employee remembers the resort as it was in the mid-1980s. Commenter *Philpappin1691* wrote about a federal Progressive Conservative Party convention at the place with Brian Mulroney before he was prime minister.

Recording labels would bring the popular Canadian bands of the day to put off live concerts at the property.

"Such great memories. Unfortunate, sad ending."

Commenter *JasmineCA87* said she worked in a nursery at the Wigamog and as a kids' camp counsellor there to older children.

Another viewer also once worked there. As a patron, commenter *Harborgirlasmr* would boat up to the resort and get a bite at the Moose Bar and Grill.

"So sad to see it in that condition," she said.

Commenter *Luckystripe77* said some of the resort's neglect can be attributed to changes in how people vacation. Haliburton County visitors in recent years have taken to renting cottages. And that's had a toll on a number of resorts that once operated along the shoreline.

"This one (the Wigamog Inn) was the last to close down," he said.

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Succession planning; open communications a need

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

It's something we all need to think about: what's next?

For the many small businesses that make this town tick, the future is uncertain while many founders and owners reach retirement age.

That's why Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC) will be offering a succession planning workshop on March 19 at the Link. "You never know what can happen," said Elisha Barlow, the program and operations coordinator at HCDC. "You can never start planning too early for your business."

HCDC hosted their first succession planning session in 2023, and Barlow noted that it was very well attended. "We touched on quite a few things," she said, sharing that they had addressed how to speak with staff about succession planning, questions about real estate, life insurance, and employee opportunities to name a few.

"It's all about ensuring appropriate communications with your team," said Barlow. Sometimes, this can be the hardest part about letting go. She noted that many local businesses are run by families, so the topic of succession can sometimes be a hard pill to swallow when the family dynamics are brought into play. "Our messaging is about trying to find ways to be as open as possible about the plan with their employees," said Barlow.

She noted a big need for the planning workshops at this stage in the community's economy. "Many family businesses are now in their third generation of ownership," she said. "It's one thing when it's passed down to kids, but sometimes things get a little confusing the further down the line they go."

The session aims to provide support and communication tools for those looking to explore succession in their businesses.

But it's not just family businesses. The workshop will also address people looking to sell their businesses, and all the logistics that need to be in place for that move. Some of the speakers and partners for the evening include accountants, lawyers, and people involved in business planning.

While the evening aims to discuss sole proprietors and family businesses, Barlow noted that there is a need for a second session that focuses on not-for-profits. "That's something we have heard a lot," she said. "A lot of boards and volunteer organizations are concerned about what's next for them, and that's a conversation we need to have as a community." Barlow said plans are in the works for this dialogue to happen in the not-so-distant future.

The business succession planning workshop is set for March 19 from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m. at the Link. There will be time for questions, panels, and networking opportunities. "You've put your heart and soul and money into your business," said Barlow, "you don't want it to end with you."

Thrills and skills

Over 60 participants took part in the final 2025 Sir Sam's Challenge Races at the beginning of the month. The Challenge is an annual seven-week race series that includes participants of all ages and abilities. Photos by Tim Tofflemire

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U–Links invites community to celebrate its research

JAMES MATTHEWS

Staff Reporter

The U-Links Centre for Community-based Research will give the public a look into some of its latest research endeavours.

The facility will host its annual Celebration of Research on March 29 from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Fleming College's Haliburton campus.

A light lunch and refreshments will be served during the free, open event. People are asked to register in advance to best provide an idea of the number of attendees for planning purposes.

Registration is available at ulinks.ca at Celebration of Research RSVP portal's Reserve a Spot page on the right-hand side of your screen. Additional information can be obtained by emailing admin@ulinks.ca.

Last year, more 170 people were in attendance.

"Please come, enjoy, get informed and put your tough questions to the students. This is going to be a super day, and I know the students will really appreciate the support of the local community," said Andy Gordon, the centre's director.

For more than 25 years, U-Links has been operating in Haliburton County for the benefit of citizens, businesses, organizations, and local government. U-Links works in the cultural, social, business, and environmental sectors to solve problems and research questions brought forward by the community.

This is done by engaging students and professors from Trent University and other academic partners. The students get a great dose of experiential education while conducting their research and U-Links community partners get their questions answered or problem solved.

U-Links also operates the Woodlands and Waterways EcoWatch Program (WWEW), the goal of which is to monitor the long-term health of the county's lakes and forests.

With the support of Haliburton County, many lake associations, and other groups, the WWEW collects and analyzes biological, chemical, and water quality data on many county lakes.

Student researchers are an important component of this long-term data collection effort.

"U-Links is excited to invite you to our 2025 Celebration of Research, which highlights all of the hard work our Trent University student partners have done on research projects right here in Haliburton County," Gordon said.

"This year, we've added an exciting panel discussion on Invasive Species with a Haliburton County perspective."

Keynote Speaker Dr. Pedro Antunes, the Canada research chair tier 2 at Algoma University, and fellow panelists Kaleigh Mooney from Trent University, Eric Sager from Trent and Fleming College, and Paul MacInnes will discuss the threat of invasive species and what you can be done against them.

This year at the Celebration of Research, almost 30 student research posters will be on display. In addition, four Trent students have been selected to give oral presentations on their research.

Ella Honey and Angus McBride will speak about light pollution on Paudash Lake. Tully Privett will present on radio statistics from Canoe FM. Jacob Wyonch will do a deep dive on the prevalence of microplastics in Haliburton County lakes.

Shelley Fellows, a project host, said she has experienced giant smiles, over the top enthusiasm, and incredible knowledge through the U-Links Centre.

"Even when ankle deep in mud, hanging over the side of a boat gathering water samples or elbow deep in plants, scooping up pollinator insects," said Fellows, who is also involved with the Haliburton County Master Gardeners and the Halls and Hawk Lakes Property Owners Association.

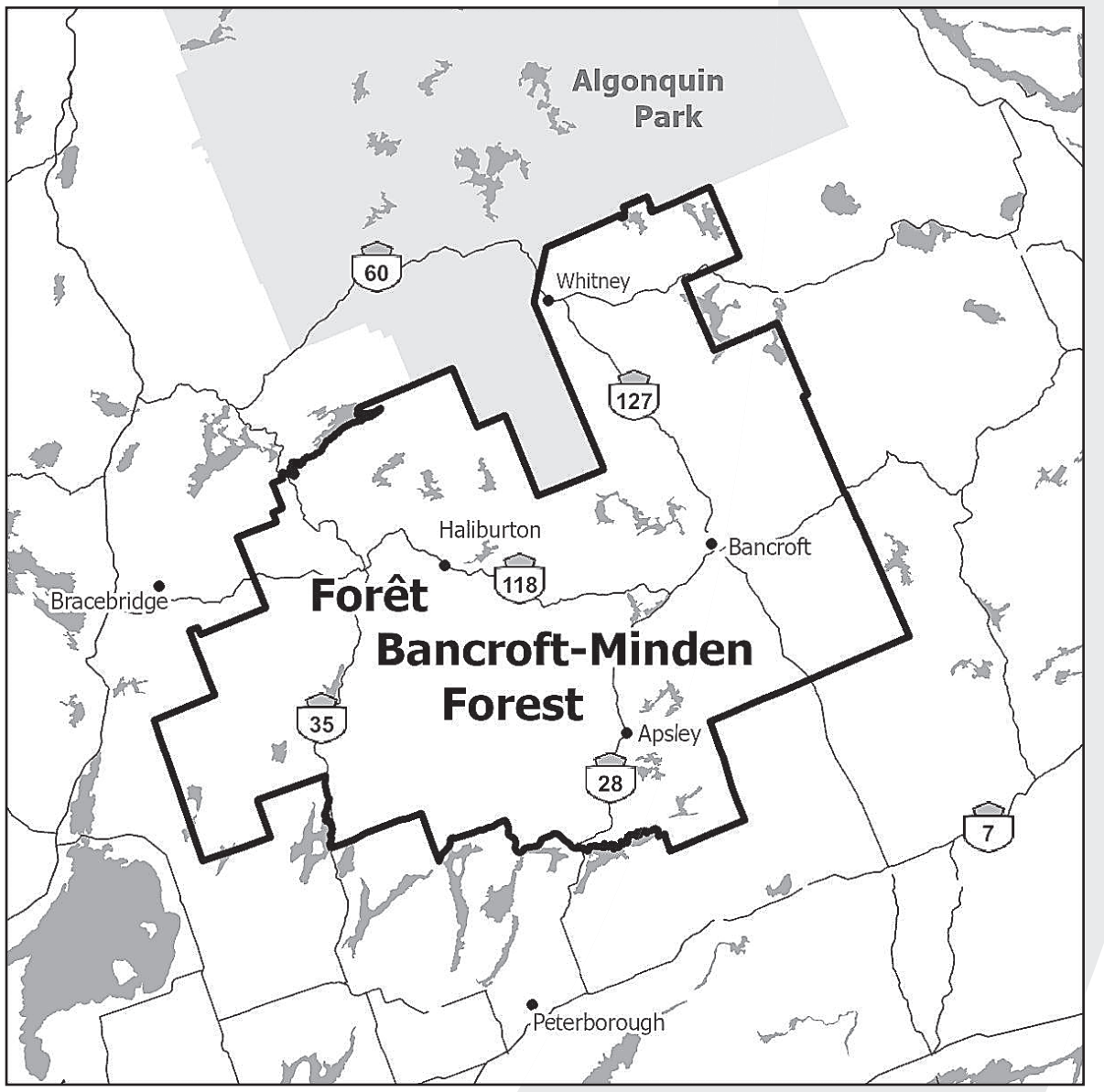
She said U-Links research has added depth to master gardener projects and has informed the Halls and Hawk Lakes Property Owners Association with excellent water quality monitoring programs.

"With high quality research reports and a library of relevant and useful past project material, U-Links is a community resource that I value very highly and greatly appreciate," she said.

Inspection

Inspection of 2025 – 2026 Annual Work Schedule for Bancroft-Minden Forest

The April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026 Annual Work Schedule (AWS) for the **Bancroft-Minden Forest** is available for public viewing by contacting the **Bancroft Minden Forest Company (BMFC),** during normal business hours and on the Natural Resources Information Portal at **https://nrip.mnr.gov.on.ca/s/fmp-online** beginning **March 17, 2025** and for the one-year duration of the AWS.



Scheduled Forest Management Operations

The AWS describes forest operations such as road construction, maintenance and decommissioning, forestry aggregate pits, harvest, site preparation, tree planting and tending that are scheduled to occur during the year.

More Information

For more information on the AWS, to arrange a virtual/in-person meeting with MNR staff to discuss the AWS or to request AWS summary information, please contact the MNR staff listed below:

For information on the rules for obtaining wood for personal use, please visit: ontario.ca/CrownLandWood. For commercial fuelwood opportunities, please contact the Forest Company listed below.

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ontario.ca/ForestManagement

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Published by **White Pine Media Corp**

CANADIAN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER AWARD 2018

DAVID ZILSTRA
Publisher and Ad Director
david.zilstra@gmail.com

JENNIFER MCEATHRON,
General Manager and Sales
jenniferm@haliburtonpress.com

EMILY STONEHOUSE,
Managing Editor
emily@haliburtonpress.com

JAMES MATTHEWS, Reporter
james@haliburtonpress.com

THOMAS SMITH, Reporter
thomas@haliburtonpress.com

KAREN LONDON,
Production Co-ordinator
karen@haliburtonpress.com

REED SACHAROFF, Production

STACEY POTALIVO, Production

LAURA SMITH, Sales
laura@haliburtonpress.com

PAUL BANELOPOULOS, Sales
paul@haliburtonpress.com

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Is this what a groundhog may see, looking up from their den? /EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editorial

Elbows up

IT'S BEEN A weird few years. I think we can all agree on that.

A pandemic and natural disasters and political fraught. And all of it, coming to us faster than we can even process; the information bubbling over the surface of our brains; some of it soaking in, while other points flash by before we even realize they're in there.

I'm not used to us all getting along. I have felt anger over the closed-mindedness of politicians, of the decisions made by my friends, my neighbours, my family. It's been more common to live in a place of strife than silk, conflict rather than comfort.

Until they bullied us.

When our closest partner, ally, and neighbours to the south decided to make our lives harder, threaten us, challenge us, we put our elbows up.

emily stonehouse

This is not a new term for many Canadians. It was originally coined by Mr. Hockey, our own Gordie Howe. "Unfailingly humble, generous and gentlemanly off the ice, Howe would wield his elbows like weapons when battling for the puck," said the CBC.

And if that doesn't describe Canada to a T, then I don't know what does.

Last week, Mike Myers, (whose photo still hangs in the Kosy Korner) donned a "Canada is not for sale" shirt on *Saturday Night Live*. He then mouthed the words "elbows up", to which Canadians went wild for. The battle cry they'd been seeking.

Now it's easy to look back and wish we could have united on other things over the years; perhaps we could focus on the many missing and murdered Indigenous women, the spike in rural poverty, environmental initiatives that will impact generations to come.

This battle cry has proven that we have the ability to join forces, to put our differences aside, and to stand up for what we know is right.

So now that we know we can unite, let us not falter. I've seen boycotts in the past written off as "cancel culture", but this one seems to have taken hold. And while it's not a black and white decision when it comes to buying Canadian, it can allow for an extra moment of thought and consideration.

Again, we always should have been buying local. Wherever and whenever possible.

It's not until threats and challenges force us to put our elbows up, and fight.

But I've been wading the waters with trepidation. I'm not used to us all getting along. These past few years have been hard on many of us; the polarization of politics making our motives known.

But I do see this as an opportunity to celebrate and explore what we have. The stories we create, the destinations in our backyards, the rich and complicated and sometimes painful parts of our past, to heal towards pieces of our future. The threats of a power-crazed man claiming our land as his own is nothing new to Indigenous Peoples, who have navigated the paths of oppression for longer than this country has been around. They also said that their land was not for sale. It never was.

We have to listen to those who have walked before us, and be mindful of who guides us forward.

Because we all want our country to survive.

I think we can all agree on that.

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Green meadow

Tales from the great

The Pause

PERHAPS THE MOST important thing I have learned over my almost 30 years of practicing yoga, qigong and meditation is to remember to pause. To become present with what is going on at this moment.

A pause is a simple act and yet can have a huge impact on our entire well being. When we pause we take a few quiet moments for ourselves and we connect, we reflect, we learn, and we remember our own goodness and the goodness that is around us.

lynda shadbolt

Pausing can contribute to a renewed sense of energy and focus. For me I pause every time I get on my yoga mat or sit on my meditation bench. I pause, I sense my heart and get very close to myself. I take a few moments to remember what is most important to me and then I set an intention based on that.

A pause can happen once a week or several times a day.

In these current times I am aware of how we all collect momentum in our bodies. Momentum from listening to the news and all the wild things that are happening in the world. Momentum from being a wife, a father, a daughter, a caregiver, a sister, a friend, a teacher and a volunteer.

Life is full and busy and we all have many roles we play. And we love those roles and we need to be in them. But it is easy to stay in the momentum and if we don't pause and take regular visits to ourselves, we may become overwhelmed, stressed or tired. That can lead to feelings of being disconnected or alone. When I notice I am racing around and perhaps overreacting to things or feeling worn out, I pause.

I feel my feet and the earth beneath me and I take a few breaths. I inhale softly and I exhale slowly. I set an intention to hold whatever arises with kind awareness. Whatever is going on is a part of me at that moment. I try to connect with the goodness that is in me and around me. It takes practice.

Spring is coming and is the perfect time of year to experiment with pausing. There is so much to pay attention to. In our yard I love to pause and look for flowers as they start to pop up or listen to the birds as they start to return.

It is magical when the sun gets warmer and leaves start to pop out.

There are many ways to pause. It might happen in a yoga class. It might be at church or in nature. It doesn't matter where you pause, what matters is that you remember to do it.

Sometimes the pause is done alone, and sometimes with a group of people.

We pause to connect and support each other. This week we are all in transition with the time change. Our bodies are adjusting. This is an excellent time to practice pausing and checking in with yourself.

Noticing how you are feeling and what you need in the moment to help you adjust. Sometimes the pause is about bringing kind awareness to something that is challenging. And then responding with love. It always ends with love.

points of view

Sub–texts in real time

steve galea

Loon Tales

ONE OF THE greatest mysteries encountered by people my age is how to determine if a text message exchange has actually ended. In fact, as I am writing this, I am still expecting a response to a witty comment I made in early 2024.

This confusion is understandable since no one ever definitively ends a text message by saying goodbye. Instead, they just stop responding, especially between the hours of midnight and six in the morning. Who can say why?

My personal theory is thumb fatigue. If you think about it, at no other time in human history have we ever asked our thumbs to do more. Whether hitch-hiking, using cell phones or video game controllers, getting involved in senseless thumb wars we have declared, or participating in Little Jack Horner reenactments – we ask a lot from our opposable digits. Frankly, it's no wonder people abandon text conversations mid-thought.

Still, it would be nice if we just texted something like, "Gotta go! I'll text more later", "Good-bye for now", or "Can I tell you something very personal about my digestive issues?" to indicate for certain that the conversation had finally come to an end.

But, alas, that is never the case. Instead, we are left guessing.

This issue has plagued me personally, since I text with several people who are either extremely slow in formulating thoughts or have decided to never text me again. At first, I thought that it was the latter, but then I realized that the current President of the US has not formulated what could be called a coherent thought in at least 10 years. So, both options are plausible.

Either way, I am still left guessing.

But here's what I do know. There are some tell-tale signs that hint a text messaging conversation might be over.

For instance, if you receive a smiley face or a thumbs up emoji, or three full months of no response, the odds are good that the text conversation you are having has concluded.

Yet this is not always the case. For instance, if you are texting an individual my age, you could just be dealing with a person who dozed off for a long nap or forgot entirely that they were in the middle of a text conversation. Likewise, if you are text messaging with a cool, younger person they could have just moved on and got a life.

This not knowing makes it difficult to know how to proceed.

For instance, I once had a text conversation with a young person that seemed to end mid-sentence. So as not to be rude, I waited the prescribed amount of time before interrupting their train of thought and cutting in– that being about four weeks.

At that time, I responded with an "LOL!" which is, I have learned, the best response to send if you are unsure of what to say. It's less enthusiastic that an ROTFLMAO and more enthusiastic that LQASITDAHH, which is Laughing quietly and sarcastically in the dark at humanities hubris (which is a little text abbreviation I made up that has not yet caught on).

My response worked, because a little less than four months later, I received a prompt answer from that young person.

It was a smiley face and a thumbs up.

pic *of the* past

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School students took part in the musical No No Nanette back in March, 1984. There were scores of students involved in the production that saw three performances before supportive audiences.

letters to the editor

A question to County Council

To the Editor,

Re: Echo February 18, 2025, page 3

That's quite the article and it gives me goose bumps to think the county council would spend millions of dollars on the old Land Registry Office. The existing county offices and building were added on to and renovated back in the 1980s or 1990s and I worked in both buildings. The LRO building had little parking; apparently had mold and was horrific to heat or keep cool. If the county is going to spend in the millions for the LRO what are they going to do with the present council chambers and offices?

I cannot understand how you are going to get as much space for council chambers in the LRO as the present council chamber along with staff offices and a beautiful reception area for visitors in this old building that they moved the county staff out of in the 1990s.

If the existing building is going to be abandoned why not sell both buildings and properties and build a modern one story for easier senior and disabled persons access. A new building could have modern up to date features rather than an early 1900s building with new icing and construction to cover an old frame.

I agree the existing upstairs is not the best but really a lift was installed for access and part of the existing county building is really not that old.

I believe before a lot of money is spent on this old building some thought should go into the tax payers share of the cost? And how long this will be sufficient for county use.

I love progress but the money could possibly be better spent on changing the county building location.

Thanks.

Richard C. (Dick) Schell,
Minden

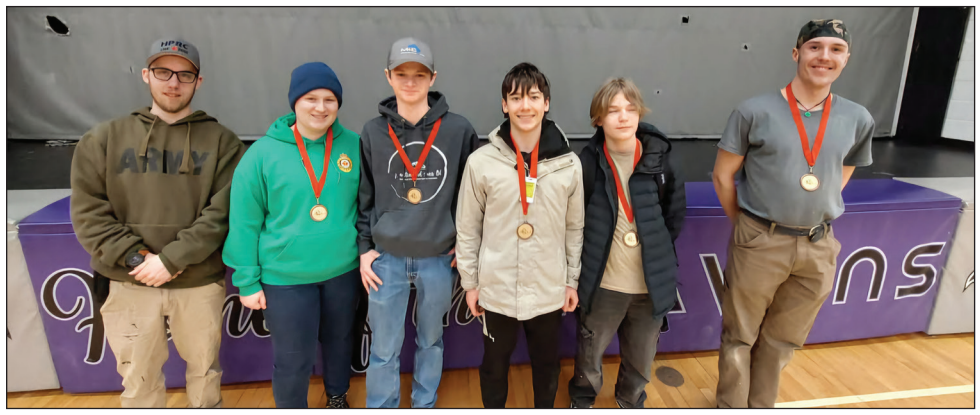
Letters to the Editor note: Submissions are subject to editing for newspaper style and punctuation.

CHECK US OUT ONLINE
haliburtonecho.ca
⇨ Read the latest stories
⇨ Watch videos
⇨ Stay up-to-date

Haliburton Happenings

The Haliburton Echo welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands through the seasons. Email emily@ haliburtonpress.com for a chance to be featured in *Haliburton Happenings.*

On Feb. 10, the Haliburton Lion's Club welcomed their newest member, Andrée Stenzel, at the Haliburton Legion. The ceremony was presided over by A16 District Governor John Relph, pictured centre alongside Renee Griffith, left. At the ceremony, Stenzel, far right, wore a traditional Lions vest that belonged to her late father, Lion Len Cormier of the Lions Club of Barrie. For more information about the local Lions Club, visit www.haliburtonlions.com. /submitted



The Haliburton Army Cadets from Legion Branch 129 received third place in their zone marksmanship competition in Belleville this past week. The team competed against ten other teams in the competition, and placed in the top three. /submitted

The much-anticipated grand opening of the Juna Restaurant in downtown Haliburton happened this past weekend. Pictured, Nico Haedicke, the front of house manager, paused for a picture with the very first guests served at the establishment. /submitted

Josh Bramham of Esson Creek Maple taps a tree in the snow at Greenmantle Farm in Wilberforce. /submitted

PUBLIC NOTICE
ROGERS COMMUNICATIONS - PROPOSED 60 METER SELF SUPPORT WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER INSTALLATION C2339

DESCRIPTION:

- The Self Support structure will sit within a chain-link fenced compound. The compound will contain a walk-in equipment cabinet housing radio equipment, tools, manuals and first aid kit..
- The site will provide fast and reliable wireless voice and data services in the central portion of the Municipality of Dysart Et Al and will provide future co-location potential, therefore eliminating the need for additional infrastructure in the area.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION:
With respect to this matter, the public is invited to provide written comments or request additional inf ormation by **April 8th, 2025**, to the contact shown below. Please include a return address.

A public information session will be held virtually on **April 9th, 2025 from 6:00 to 7:00p.m**. Please register using the email and phone number below by April 8th, 2025.

Spectra Point Inc. - Agent for Rogers
William Elder
302 -1090 Don Mills Road
Toronto,On. M3C 3R6
Phone: (416)726-8555
Email: welder@spectrapoint.ca

LOCATION: The site is located in a rural area off Burleigh Road

ADDRESS:
L0T 31-35
CONCESSION 1
DUDLEY;
DYSART ET AL

AVIS PUBLIC
ROGERS COMMUNICATIONS - PROJET D'INSTALLATION D'UN PYLÔNE AUTO-PORTANT DE TÉLÉCOMMUNICATIONS SANS FIL DE 60 MÈTRES C2339

DESCRIPTION :

- La tour sera située dans une enceinte clôturée par un grillage. L'enceinte contiendra une armoire de rangement pour le matériel radio, les outils, les manuels et la trousse de premier soins.
- Le site fournira des services voix et données sans fil rapides et fiables dans la partie centrale de la ville de Peterborough et offrira un potentiel de co-localisation futur, éliminant ainsi le besoin d'infrastructures supplémentaires dans la zone.

CONSULTATION PUBLIQUE :
En ce qui concerne cette question, le public est invité à fournir des commentaires écrits ou à demander des informations supplémentaires avant le **8 Avril. 2025** , au contact indiqué ci-dessous. Veuillez inclure une adresse de retour.

Une session d'information publique se tiendra virtuellement **le 9 Avril 2025 de 18h00 à 19h00**. Veuillez vous inscrire en utilisant l'email et le numéro de téléphone ci-dessous avant le 8 Avril 2025.

Spectra Point Inc. - Agent pour Rogers
William Elder
302-1090 Don Mills Road
Toronto,On. M3C 3R6
Phone: (416)726-8555
Email: welder@spectrapoint.ca

EMPLACEMENT :
Le site est situé dans une zone rurale près de Burleigh Road.

ADRESSE :
L0T 31-35
CONCESSION 1
DUDLEY;
DYSART ET AL

HSAD opens registration for spring and summer programs

THOMAS SMITH

Staff Reporter

The Haliburton School of Art and Design (HSAD) officially opened registration for their summer and spring continuing education courses on March 3.

In 2024, HSAD had around 1,800 participants in their continuing education programs, estimates Dean Xavier Massé.

"We now think of our continuing education as a year-long programming strategy," said Massé.

Last year, HSAD completed their development of a brand new computer lab for students in visual and other creative arts. In addition to the computers, HSAD also offers a makers space equipped with 3D printers, scanners, CNC machine, and laser engraver, among others.

The college also tested out a brand new glassblowing course geared towards teenagers, titled simply; Teen Glassblowing.

"There is great interest in having an activity for teenagers," said Massé, noting that the course provides a great opportunity for teenagers to express themselves creatively, and take a pause from their phones.

Massé also noted that the demand for continuing education courses during their fall and winter semesters has greatly increased, with more courses being offered to the public.

The continuing education courses offered by HSAD are a large draw for seasonal residents to Haliburton County. The most popular of these programs include ceramics, painting, fibre arts, jewelry making, and glassblowing.

On Thursdays this year, HSAD will be opening their studios for the public to explore and see people's work. The college will offer Art Talks on Wednesdays in the Great Hall from 4:45 p.m. to 6 p.m. The talks are free and the public is welcome to attend. On Thursdays from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. HSAD will be hosting performances in their Great Hall.

Glassblowing is one of the many options for continuing education courses at Haliburton's School of Art and Design, including a program designed spcifically for local and visiting teenagers to explore the craft during the summer months. /FILE

"The setting is special," said Massé. "That's very hard to replace and replicate somewhere else. It's a very unique setting."

In addition to the surrounding environment, Massé says that the community of Haliburton expresses a great amount of love towards the college, and its students. Under its great roof, HSAD offers a wide range of programs with something enjoyable for everyone to explore.

With so many students and visitors coming to HSAD, it has a substantial impact on the local economy. Jim Blake, co-chair of the U-Links Management Committee, estimates that the local wages and money spent by visiting students and faculty is around $2 million. For every dollar spent at a local business, an average of 66 cents is retained in the local economy, says Blake.

"There is a multiplier (or cascading) effect for wages spent locally and the money that visitors pay on accommodation, food, goods, services and entertainment," said Blake. "With the multiplier effect (recycling of money through the local economy) that's an additional $3.5+ million."

For those interested in their selection of spring and summer programs, you can either visit their website at flemingcollege.ca or reserve your spot by calling 705-457-1680.

Stay tuned to future editions of the *Echo* regarding HSAD's Summer Paddle-In event, Fall Hike-In event, and the Art Heist Mystery Night.

MINDEN SUBARU
FREE PUBLIC SKATE
THURSDAY MARCH 13TH 2025
MINDEN SUBARU HAPPILY INVITES YOU TO A FREE PUBLIC SKATE
AJ LARUE ARENA, Haliburton
2:30 PM-4:00 PM

Leave it to the Lassies

The Lassie's Bonspiel welcomed 16 teams on March 1 for their annual fundsraiser for the Curling Club in Haliburton. "The cost of running a curling facility is significant and, being in a small community, the Haliburton Curling Club relies heavily on member-run fundraising to allow our club to operate and make membership fees affordable," said Megan Bawn, a board member and bonspiel organizer. "The Haliburton Curling Club has established a reputation for a fun vibe and wonderful hospitality that keeps out-of-town curlers returning year after year." /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

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EMAIL CONSTANCEWOOD@GMAIL.COM
Haliburton
Ontario

CSWB

Taking care of your mental health; an act of self-love

Spring is just around the corner and with that comes warmer and longer days. It's a season rooted in new beginnings, and whenever I think of a new beginning, I often make a resolution. This is my chance to reset and restart. Don't leave your resolutions to New Year's Day.

With that being said, my spring resolution is to focus on my mental health: to pay attention to the activities that support my mental health, to notice signs that my mental health needs attention and to know what steps I can take to reset and get back on track.

I pay attention to the activities that support my mental health and that includes staying physically healthy. I also enjoy surrounding myself in nature and dabbling in arts and crafts. These activities bring me a sense of contentment and satisfaction. Those are just a few examples of what I do to manage my mental health, and you will have activities that are unique to you. It could be as simple as taking a few quiet moments each day to rest your mind or listen to music. It might be journalling or spending time with people who are important to you, or volunteering in your community. I encourage you to be aware of what activities make you feel good to ensure the best management of your mental health.

Managing your mental health doesn't mean there aren't problems or challenges in your life. It means you're better able to cope with them effectively. A big part of that is recognizing the different signs that your mental health may need attention. For me, when things are 'not-so-good', I notice that I'm more irritable or I'm worrying more than usual. Other signs that we need to bring attention to mental health might include tiredness, low mood or feeling lonely. I encourage you to identify what your 'not-so-good' looks like and to pay attention to those early signs so you can act right away.

Speaking of acting right away, please note that it's different for everyone. It might mean adjusting your schedule to make time for your feel-good activities or realizing the need to simply rest. Support might include talking to a friend, learning a new skill or meeting new people. The Haliburton County Public Library also offers opportunities to learn and connect with people in the community. Sometimes support includes reaching out for professional help. To learn more about taking care of your mental health and finding mental health supports, visit www.hkpr.on.ca/mentalhealth

If you're able to take away anything from this article, please ensure you pay attention to yourself. Take the time to do things that make you feel good. Notice the signs that your mental health may need attention and always take the time to reset and start again. Any day, any month, or anytime of the year. Your mental health matters.

For more information about Community Safety and Well-Being in Haliburton County, visit www.haliburtoncounty.ca/cswb

Written by Dearbhla Lynch, Health Promoter for the Haliburton Kawartha Northumberland Peterborough Public Health (formerly HKPR District Health Unit)

March Break Reminder...

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SILENT AUCTION
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Contact Linda at 705 457-2064 for credit card purchases or at HHOA on Tuesdays & Thursdays 10am to 2pm at 705 457-9664 for in person or credit card purchases.

The wild game served at this event has not been inspected under the R.S.O meat inspection act.
Domestic meat available

Tales and tunes

The Haliburton County Folk Society hosted an open stage on Saturday, March 8 at the Haliburton Legion., with featured artist Jamie McGowan. A wide variety of performers and musical artists also took to the stage, singing covers, as well as original songs for the engaged audience. For future Folk Society events, visit their website at www.haliburtonfolk.com.
/TIM YANO staff photographer

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56				■	57			■	58					
59				■	60			■	■	61				
62				■	63			■	■	■	64			

CLUES ACROSS
1. Unsheared sheep
5. Rock TV channel
8. Streetcar
12. Concerning
14. Expression of recognition
15. Greek goddess of youth
16. An iPad is one
18. Adult beverage
19. Manning and Wallach are two
20. Makes a petty verbal attack
21. Tyrion Lannister's nickname
22. Pointed ends of pens
23. Wristwatches
26. Body part
30. Made a mistake
31. Adjusted
32. Turkish honorific title
33. Yell
34. Historic Alabama city
39. Cub
42. Type of sea bass dish
44. To call (archaic)
46. Unfortunate
47. Separate oneself from others
49. Hero sandwiches
50. Former OSS
51. Open spaces in a forest
56. Innermost brain membranes
57. Fortune
58. Hunting expedition
59. Doomed queen Boleyn
60. Peyton's little brother
61. Type of wrap
62. Scottish tax
63. Soviet Socialist Republic
64. An increase in price or value

CLUES DOWN
1. Works of body art
2. Abba __, Israeli politician
3. A desert in Asia
4. Eat greedily
5. Doomed French queen
6. Beat
7. One who survives on blood
8. As a consequence
9. Counted on
10. Acquired Brain Injury Behavior Science
11. Unclean
13. One who does not drink
17. Wild ox of the Malay Archipelago
24. __ student, learns healing
25. Bacterial skin infection
26. Expresses surprise
27. What one says on a wedding day
28. Crony
29. Where you entered the world (abbr.)
35. Unit of length
36. Side that is sheltered from the wind
37. More (Spanish)
38. Autonomic nervous system
40. Violent troublemakers, originally in Paris
41. Statements that something is untrue
42. Greek alphabet letter
43. Suspends from above
44. Popular types of cigars
45. Girls
47. U.S. philosopher and logician
48. Nocturnal hoofed animal
49. Relaxing spaces
52. From a distance
53. Form of Persian
54. Amounts of time
55. Trigonometric function

Answers on page 15

Clowning around

On Sunday, March 9, Razzamataz Kids' Shows welcomed *Circus Incognitus* to the Northern Lights Pavilion, featuring performer Jamie Adkins of Quebec. The show had a good turnout, despite being rescheduled from a previous date due to inclement weather. /TIM YANO staff photographer

Notice of Public Meeting concerning the creation of the proposed Milburn Kendrick Conservation Reserve

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the application by the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust to the Province of Ontario for the creation of the Milburn Kendrick Conservation Reserve within the County of Haliburton. A presentation will be made to County Council by the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust followed by an opportunity for members of the public to address County Council regarding the proposed Conservation Reserve designation.

The meeting will be held on **March 26, 2025**, at **9:30 a.m.** at the **Lloyd Watson Memorial Community Centre, 2249 Loop Rd, Wilberforce Ontario**. The agenda for the meeting can be viewed online at: http://haliburton.civicweb.net. The meeting is also available via live streaming at: https://youtube.com/live/JRz37Qz5aJY?feature=share

Members of the public may participate in the process by registering to speak in-person at the meeting or by providing written comments. **To register to speak or provide written comments please email the County Clerk's office clerk@haliburtoncounty.ca. Requests to speak or written comments must be received no later than 12:00 noon on March 25, 2025.** Those who register to speak will have up to 5 minutes for comments during the meeting. Individuals that do not register in advance may not have the opportunity to speak. Please note that the name of the individuals registered to speak, and a copy of any written comments will form part of the public record.

Questions regarding the meeting may be directed to Gary Dyke, CAO County of Haliburton at gdyke@haliburtoncounty.ca

ROUND ONE
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HOME TUESDAY MARCH 11TH - 7:00PM
AWAY THURSDAY MARCH 13TH - 7:00PM
HOME SATURDAY MARCH 15TH - 4:00PM
AWAY SUNDAY MARCH 16TH - 2:00PM
HOME TUESDAY MARCH 18TH - 7:00PM

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Save the date

Aging Together as Community and the County of Haliburton invite you to our next exciting event, "Support and independence: Finding the balance."

Growing older brings changes, but you can stay healthy and live comfortably in your home for many years. Please join us to learn more.

When: Friday, March 21, 2025

Where: Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 129, Haliburton or by Zoom

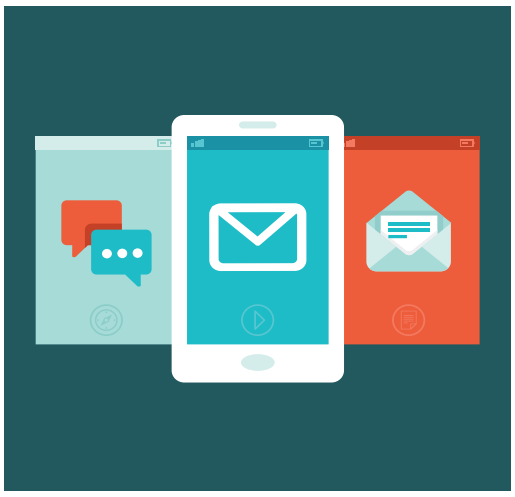
Time: 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Register by March 18 by calling or texting Connie Wood 705-457-7215, or by email constancewood@gmail.com.

Crown land conversations

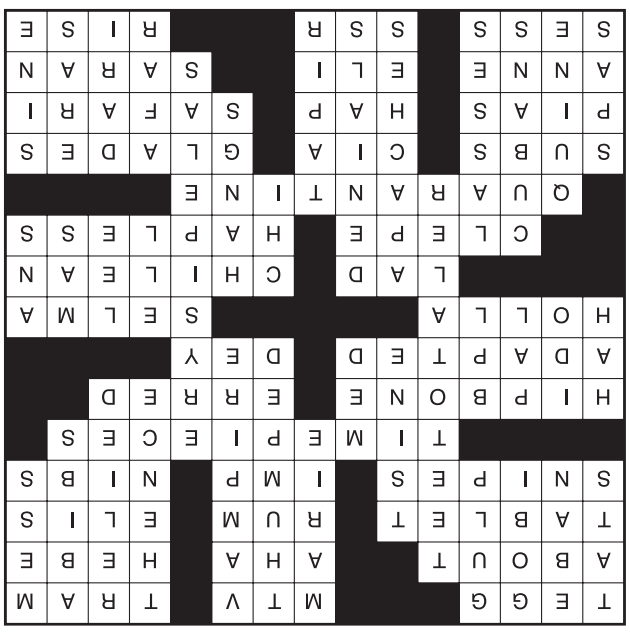
Citizens for Crown Land Protection C.C.L.P. Invite you to join us for an OPEN HOUSE Haliburton Legion Sunday, March 23, 2025 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?



Send a letter to the editor to emily@haliburtonpress.com

CROSSWORD ANSWERS



Haliburton Highlands CHAMBER of COMMERCE

Join us for a

Succession Planning Panel

March 19, 2025 5:30-7:30pm
The Link
5152 County Rd 21

No matter your industry or stage of business, hear from experts about creating, refining and executing your business' succession plan.

Register at thelinkhaliburton.ca/events

Cohosted by:

Haliburton County Development Corporation

BDC

Haliburton County Home Builders Association

Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce

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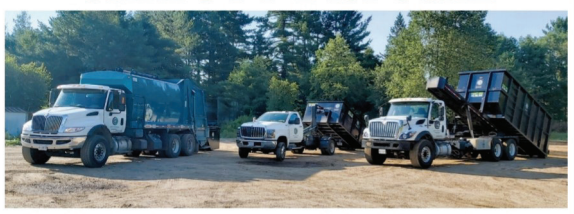

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Special thanks to Dr. Bottum, Haliburton Paramedics, & PSWs who cared for Mom at Parklane Apartments; and to Dr. Armstrong, Nurses, PSWs and staff for their kindness and care of Mom during her time at Hyland Crest LTC.

Thank you to Dwaine and Lori Lloyd and staff at Haliburton Community Funeral Home, Fr. C. Shalla and everyone involved in the funeral service.

God bless all who helped us through.

Deeno, Charlene, Marina, Miles, Abbey, Charlie, Lesley, Daryl, Reuben, and Connor

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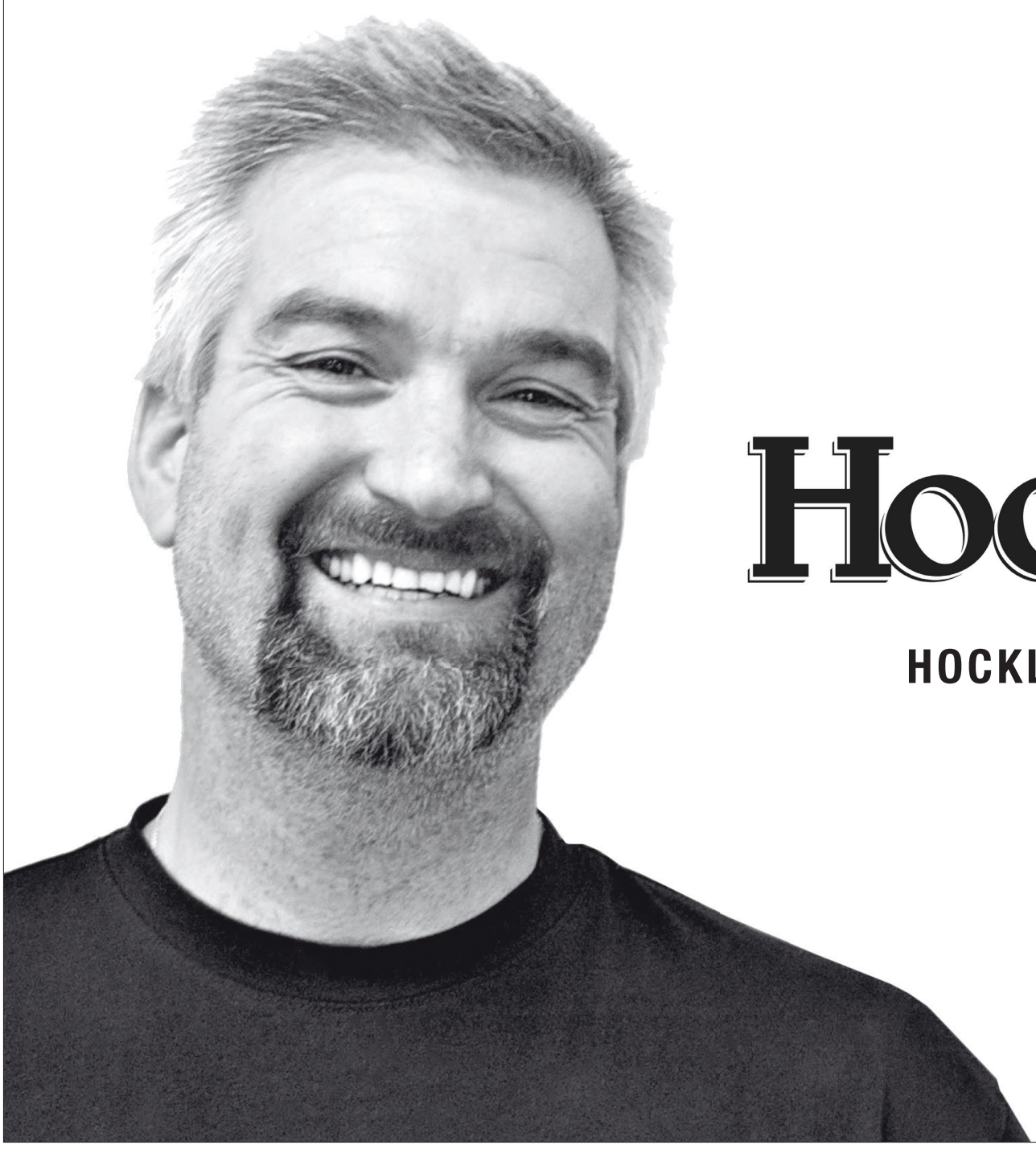

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THE ECHO HALIBURTON COUNTY — The Times — County Life

THE HALIBURTON COUNTY ECHO
AND MINDEN RECORDER

Vol. 99 | No. 31 | Wednesday, April 1, 1981 | "The voice of the Highlands" | 12 pages | 25 cents

Annual fun night promises to be a family affair

This Friday night may just be the funniest Fun Night that Haliburton Minor Hockey has ever hosted.

Organizers for the third annual Fun Night have planned an evening of entertainment that will please both the participants and the spectators.

Beginning at 7 p.m. the Haliburton Tykes will take to the ice in a fast paced hockey game with three action-packed 10-minute periods.

When the Tykes leave the ice everyone will have their last chance of the season to don their blades and make a few laps around the arena. Public skating will be held for 45 minutes.

Fun Night's famous races will then get underway with the five year-olds lining up at the starting line first. Kids up to 16 will have the chance to show the best of their skating abilities in the race categories.

Then the coaches and parents will be strutting their talents in the OMHA and Tri-County sponsored relay races. Each team has two men and women to represent their team in the relay race.

"That's usually a fun one," organizer Grant Rae said Monday.

The chuck wagon race is the next entertaining event on the agenda. One rider mounts a specially built sleigh while six team members pull him around the arena at the end of a 40 foot rope.

In this timed race it can be quite an adventure for the rider who "might end upside down but still hanging on," Rae said.

Organizers are hoping three teams can be put together to participate in the hilarious race.

After everyone stops laughing from the last event the mystery Grand Finale will bring all those smiles back to the spectators' faces.

This year the teachers from Haliburton Highlands Senior Elementary School have challenged the teachers from the high school to a competition that will surpass all the competitions ever held on previous fun nights.

Funds raised at fun night will go to help out minor hockey in its season next winter but the fun everyone has will probably go beyond the money that is raised, Rae said.

"It's like an old-fashioned carnival," he added.

So come out to Fun Night, beginning at 7 p.m.: at the Dysart et al arena and have some good old-fashioned fun.

Grant Rae, centre, was fighting hard to keep Gerald Irish representing the elementary school teachers, right, and Dale Robinson, from the high school separated until their mystery challenge race happens this Friday at the Dysart et al arena.

Fewer multi party lines envisaged

Bell to spend $8 million to better local service

Bell Canada is spending approximately eight million dollars to upgrade service in the Haliburton Highlands area, the area manager said Monday.

The engineering and construction branch is in the midst of improving service to exchanges in Carnarvon, Gooderham, Kinmount, Minden, West Guilford, Haliburton Village and Coboconk.

When the service improvement program is completed in September of this year, residents in rural areas will have no more than four parties on a line and semi-private and private lines will be available in areas where they never were before, Bill Stephenson said.

In some rural areas where up to 10 customers have been connected to a single party line, the new service will be a welcome relief.

The program, dubbed Non-Urban Service Improvement, has been underway in both Ontario and Quebec since 1976, Stephenson said.

Stephenson said the rates to people on the party system will not increase because of the improvements but some customers in built-up areas might get a break on their telephone bills.

In areas which have 25 dwellings in close proximity (about a square kilometre) customers will no longer have to pay the mileage rate to the nearest town for private and two-party lines, Stephenson said. Areas such as South Lake and Horseshoe Lake, several areas in Coboconk and one built-up area in West Guilford will no longer have to pay the mileage when this program comes into effect, Stephenson said.

The major cost for the program is the re-cabling which is being carried out throughout the area under improvement, Stephenson said.

"It's a pretty significant cost," he said.

The new cables are expected to improve service since they are less likely to break down and will also make it easier for Bell Canada to monitor the lines for problems, Stephenson said.

Under the new program, Bell Canada has been extending service into areas where no telephones were available before, Stephenson said. This aspect of the program affects mainly cottage areas where telephone service has not been a necessity.

In the next four to five years, Bell Canada is also proposing to increase its service to these areas. On the drawing board for proposed service are areas around Solerno, Miskwabi, Neguani and Redstone Lakes, Stephenson said.

"We have a rather extensive proposed program," Stephenson said.

Minden set to clamp down on tax arrears

Residents in Anson, Hindon and Minden who have let their taxes fall behind may be facing municipal registration of their properties if they don't pay on the next notice.

Council has instructed clerk-treasurer Elinor Burke to go ahead with registration proceedings on properties that are eligible, the clerk said Monday.

Properties which are eligible for registration to the township, under the Ontario Municipal Act, are improved lots with buildings or used for agricultural purposes which have not had taxes paid within the past three years and unimproved vacant land when the owners have not paid taxes within the past two years.

Presently the municipality has $90,616 in outstanding taxes on properties which are eligible for municipal registration, the clerk said.

Although the amount is substantial, it is not out-of-line considering the township levies approximately a million dollars a year, including education and county taxes, Burke said.

"It's not unusual," she said.

Beginning in April, the office staff will send notices to residents who have not paid their taxes but Burke said there are about "half a dozen" delicate cases that

Cont'd. page 2

Recent rains prove a help to lake levels

Substantial rainfall coupled with warm temperatures that have melted most of the snow cover have eased concerns about low lake levels for Trent Severn waterway officials.

Bruce Kitchen, water control engineer for the system, said in an interview Tuesday that up to a week ago, levels were below normal and it appeared there might be problems getting lakes up to capacity before the summer

Cont'd. page 2

Free under Woodlands Improvement Act

MNR to plant 158,000 trees

Up to 158,000 trees will be planted on private land in Haliburton County this spring by staff of the Ministry of Natural Resources' Minden District office.

Scheduled to begin April 21 and continue for about 10 days, the planting is being carried out under the Woodlands Improvement Act.

Some 17 properties are involved in this year's program, according to Dave Leader, private land technician for the Minden district. Bulk of the trees will be red pines, Leader said, although up to 25,000 white spruce and an equal number of tamaracks are also slated for planting.

Planting on lands covered by the Woodlands Improvement Act has averaged about 160,000 trees a year in the Minden district, Leader said in an interview Tuesday, but numbers are expected to fall over the next few years because of a lack of suitable land and a shift in priority by the ministry, which intends to direct more of its efforts and funds toward improving the 95 per cent of the land in Haliburton County which is already forest covered.

Applications will still be entertained from private land owners who want to take part in the reforestation program, however, Leader said.

Any land owner with at least five acres of open land is eligible to apply for a management agreement with the ministry under the Woodlands Improvement Act, Leader said. Life of the agreement is 15 years. Under it, the ministry agrees to plant commercially valuable trees, while the landowner assumes responsibility to keep livestock and snowmobilers off the land, and to deal with insects and diseases which may attack the trees.

The program is directed primarily at revitalizing vacant agricultural land, and topography is taken into consideration, since the ministry tries to use mechanical planters as much as possible.

Some 40 per cent of this year's planting is expected to be done mechanically, Leader said, while the remaining 60 per cent will be carried out by seasonal crews hired for the job.

People who wish to plant trees themselves can take advantage of another ministry program which makes nursery stock available at low cost to individuals with at least five acres suitable for replanting. Ministry staff will consult aerial photographs of a proposed planting site and recommend the type of trees most suitable for the terrain and soil conditions. Cost of the trees is $10 per order plus .25 cents per tree. (An order of 1000 trees would cost $35).

Depending on availability, trees can be obtained within three months of application Leader said, but six months

Cont'd. page 2

Council, road workers reach 1981 agreement

Haliburton County council and its road workers have reached an agreement on a 1981 contract.

The agreement came last Monday with the aid of a councilliator appointed by the province after talks between the county and the Canadian Union of Public Employees had broken down. It matches an agreement worked out earlier this year between Dysart et al and its road workers, who are also members of CUPE.

The workers will receive an across the board increase of 70 cents an hour retroactive to January 1. A further 20 cents an hour increase will take effect June 1. The settlement will bring the salary range for road workers to between $6.10 and $7.55 by June 1.

Other concessions include an additional 'float' day holiday and work week of 44 hours, one hour shorter than called for in the 1980 contract.

The agreement has been accepted by the road workers, and is expected to be ratified by county council at its meeting April 15.

Rotary clubs set $3100 goal for Easter Seals

Rotary clubs in Haliburton County should raise approximately $3,100 for the Easter Seals Society if the public responds to the annual mailing campaign.

Bill Emmerson, chairman of the Haliburton Rotary campaign, said the club is hoping to raise $1,800 this year, up from last year's objective of $1,500. In Minden, chairman Jerry Rome said the club has not set a goal but is hoping it will raise more than last year's total of $1,300.

In both communities the campaigns will be getting a boost from Imperial Oil which has arranged with two local dealers to split a two cent donation per litre of gas sold on Saturday, April 11.

One cent per litre sold will be donated by the participating dealer for local use while the corporation's one

Cont'd. page 2

Committee now set to interview director hopefuls

A committee selected to consider a recreation director for Dysart et al has come up with a short list of nine potential directors, and will begin interviewing the candidates this Sunday and Monday.

More than 30 applications for the position were received from across the province.

Once interviews are completed, the committee will recommend to council whether or not to proceed with hiring a director.

According to reeve Murray Fearrey, the committee hopes to find out in the course of the interviews how large a program might be necessary, how many support staff might have to be hired, and how much a recreation program would cost.

Once those facts have been determined, council will have to decide if it is willing to commit the necessary funds. If it decides in favour of the recreation director concept, one of the nine candidates will probably be hired later this month.

St. Peter's church in Maple Lake has received a beautiful new carpet as part of a legacy left to the church. In a will Janet Dawson, wife of the late Garnet Dawson, requested that money be left to the church for improvements. The original ground the church stands on was part of the R. Dawson homestead in Maple Lake. The committee for selecting the carpet had a lot of help from many of the other church members. Here Isobelle Gibbs, left, May Hodgson and Iris Adamson appraise the new carpet which was laid two weeks ago.

Mike McLean defends the net

Pee wees come close

Provincial semi final decided by fourth game

by Sue Cooper

The Haliburton Pee Wees lost at home last Thursday night, ending their bid to win the all Ontario semi-finals. In the fourth game of the best of five series, Haliburton lost to Ennismore 5 - 2. Earlier in the week Haliburton dropped a costly game to Ennismore, 9 - 4.

In Tuesday's game at Ennismore, the home team was playing on key from the very beginning of the game. At 12:56 Ennismore put the first marker on the scoreboard and then gave it some accompaniment only 10 seconds later on another well-placed shot.

Haliburton got a chance to retaliate at 7:34 as Mike Blake scored unassisted.

But Ennismore wanted to please its home town crowd and in another strong play in Haliburton's end, they chalked up another point at 4:55. Haliburton just couldn't keep up to the Ennismore boys as they came up with an unassisted goal with one man skating life in the penalty box.

In the second period it looked like Haliburton might be picking up some much needed enthusiasm as Blake scored unassisted while both teams had boys serving penalties in the box.

The teams kept the play moving back and forth but couldn't manage to get a goal until Ennismore took full advantage of its power play and scored at 4:34.

Haliburton bounced back from the goal and scored one of its own at 2:25 to knock the home team down a notch. Kent Bannister made the point with the help of Tran LaRue.

Ennismore got the last word in for the period as they scored again with only 41 seconds remaining.

Haliburton's tough stand in the second period dwindled off in the third as Ennismore racked up three more goals and Haliburton only managed to get one.

At 13:56 Ennismore scored and then held off until they pushed on again at 7:39 for another point.

Haliburton then pulled together and with a one-man advantage over the home

Cont'd. page 6

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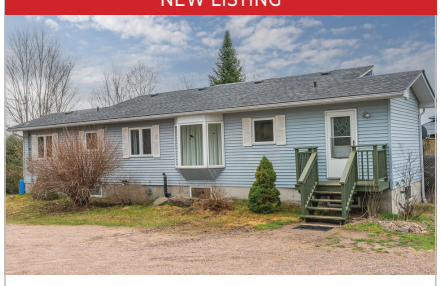

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